



Concoursing hero returns

OSCILLATOR

DELAWARE VALLEY HISTORIC RADIO

*The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC
1999*

Vol. 7. No. 9, September

Scoop Snags Houck Award



ROCHESTER, NY – DVHRC member Ludwell Sibley has received some much deserved, and long overdue, recognition for his contributions to the radio hobby at this year's annual AWA Conference. Lud was presented with the prestigious Houck award "for the documentation of radio history in the book *Tube Lore* and the (sic) ongoing material on vacuum tube history."

Other 1999 AWA awards included: The Bruce Kelly OTB Award for the author of the best article on historic material, awarded to Brother Patrick Dowd for his November 1998 article on the UV-199 tube.

The J. Albert Moore Editorial Award, presented to Richard A. Parks for his OTB "Breadboarding" series of construction articles.

The Tyne Tube Award, presented to Eric Barber for a recent article on vacuum tube computers in the I.E.E.E. Journal.

The Houck award for preservation, presented to Jim and Felicia Kreuzer for their work with Marconi artifacts.

Date Set for AWA 2000 Gathering

Next year's Antique Wireless Association Conference will be held 6 – 9 September. The theme will be Crosley.

THE OSCILLATOR

Newsletter of the
Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club
P.O. Box 847
Havertown, Pa. 19083

The *Oscillator* is published monthly by members of the non-profit DVHRC. Its purpose is to provide a forum to educate, inform, entertain, and communicate with collectors and preservers of vintage radio technology.

We welcome and solicit information relating to radio history or collecting. Submissions should be carefully researched, typed and accompanied with clear photographs or diagrams. Material on-disc (3-1/2" DOS/Win95) is particularly welcome.

Unless copyrighted by the author, material in this publication is available for attributed reproduction for nonprofit purposes. (For convenience, the editor can supply copy on-disc.)

Personal views, opinions and technical advice offered in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the members, officers or Board of Directors of the DVHRC, nor is the organization responsible for any buying or selling transaction incurred.

To join: DVHRC dues are \$15 per year. The membership year runs January-through-December. Please mail to the club PO box above.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM

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COPY DEADLINE: The 20th of each month.

Next Meeting

The September meeting of the NJARC will be held at 7:30PM, on September 14 at the Telford Community Center. Al Klase will reprise his recent AWA conference presentation on The Secrets of High-performance Crystal Sets.

This month will be our second quarterly "high-line" auction. Bring your better items, and bring money! Ray Chase, for one, has promised some tempting morsels.

Radio Auction in NJ

Ray also reports that there will be an auction in Stewardsville, NJ (Phillipsburg vicinity) on Friday, 17 September. The event is slated to offer a large batch of radios including 25+ consoles. These include several A-K's and a Federal. For information contact the auction company at 908-859-3427 or Ray Chase at 908-757-9471.

AUGUST MEETING NOTES

by Dave Snellman

The weather couldn't have been nicer for our August meeting. Some even suggested we hold it outside in the parking lot, but the draw of some delicious snacks brought everyone inside. Good cookies! Thanks, Alice.

The usual pre-meeting gab sessions subsided and things got down to business. To start off, a few reports of recent meets. There were reports that Elgin was somewhat smaller this year. Some speculate the Internet is making inroads in the meet attendance by both vendors and buyers. Lewie Newhard gave a report on Michigan. The weather played a little havoc on them, but he said prices were good for the buyers and competition was a little severe. The recent NJARC meet in Hightstown was described a "HOT!!!" (Weather-wise, that is.) Hats, sunscreen, and plenty of liquid was the order of the day at that meet.

Some upcoming events worth mentioning include AWA in Rochester, September 1st through 4th. Hopefully, the weather will hold for that as two days of auction activity may impact on the flea market (except for those who start on Monday!) To steal a line from another ARC, "If you only make one meet, make it this one." DVHRC's Al Klase will be presenting this year. The "Tube Collectors Association" will hold a seminar on vacuum tubes (what else?) Expect to see Lud Sibley there. The next is MAARC's annual picnic at the Arcadia Fire Company Fairgrounds in Maryland. It's scheduled for October 3rd. Details are in this month's *Radio Age*.

Speaking of MAARC, Dave Abramson reported on his visit to their new museum in Bowie, MD – outside of Washington, DC. It's worth stopping in, if you're in that "neck of the woods."

COMING EVENTS

Sep 10	NJARC Radio Meet, Freehold, NJ
Sep 11	Hamfest Dover, DE
Sep 14	DVHRC Meeting, Telford
Sep 18	Hamfest Schnecksville
Sep 19	Hamfest, Trenton, NJ
Sep 19	Hamfest, York, Pa.
Sep 25	Hamfest, Mt. Holly, NJ
Sep 26	FARFEST, Bowie, MD (formerly Gaithersburg)
Oct. 3	MAARC Picnic, Arcadia, Md.
Oct. 3	Hamfest, Wrightstown, Pa.
Oct. 8	NJARC Radio Meet, Freehold, NJ
Oct. 9	Hamfest, Teaneck, NJ
Oct. 12	DVHRC Meeting, Telford
Oct. 17	Hamfest, Sellersville, Pa.

This month's *Radio Age* also covers their grand opening and other info about the museum.

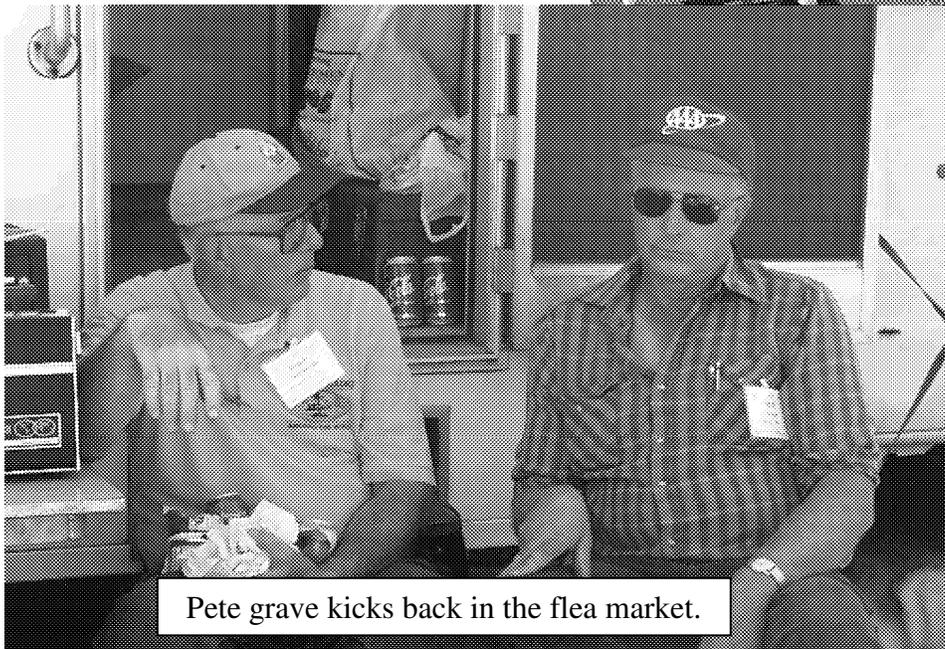
The evening's tech presentation featured Ted Sowirka and he took us through the history of RCA's Harrison, NJ tube manufacturing plant. It started out as an Edison plant that made incandescent light bulbs and ended making nuvistors, the last of the vacuum tubes! During its heyday it was the largest vacuum tube manufacturing plant, producing "billions" of tubes. The structure was unique in that it used ship's masts as support beams. The masts were tapered and metal collars were fashioned to support upper floors. The structure was torn down around 1975 to make way for a new highway. Another one of "those things that aren't there anymore." Ted explained the intricate process of assembling tubes and how much of the work was done by hand. The materials needed to manufacture the tubes were also fabricated at the site. Not only were RCA tubes made there, tubes for other manufactures were made, tested, and labeled at Harrison. Questions were brought up on tube testing and a lively discussion followed.

This month's auction featured items donated to the club by Jim Amici, Abe Diehl, and Frank Krider. Proceeds of the sale of these items goes to the club. A big "thank you" to these three for helping out the club in this way. Among the other items in the

auction were some German radios, a Radiola 60, an Emerson record cutter, RCA service literature, a Motorola portable TV, a trio of RCA tube-type portable radios (circa 1957) as well as lots of tubes and parts.



Rochester in Pictures

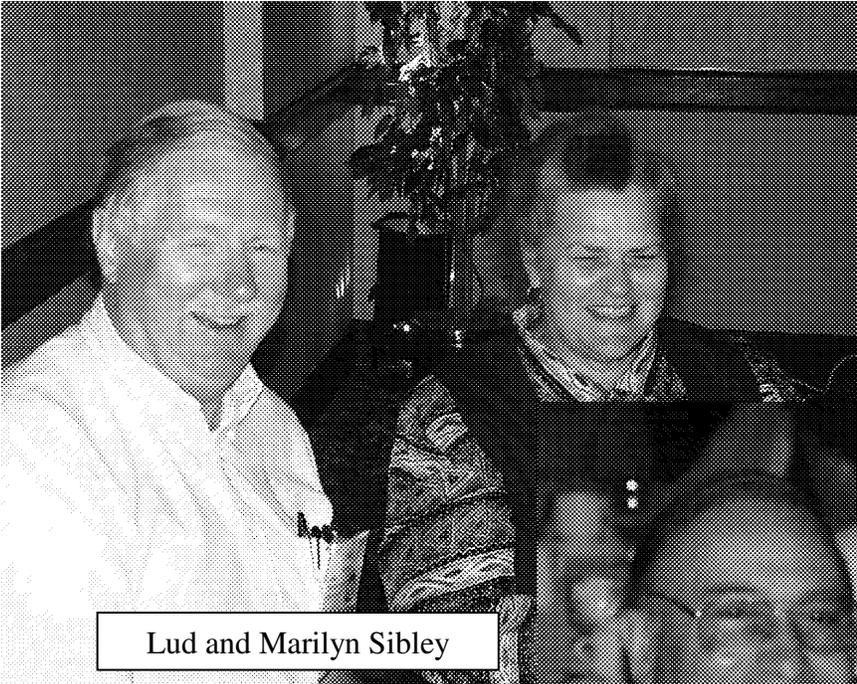


Pete grave kicks back in the flea market.

N3FRQ Crystal Set demo area.



Unusual Kring crystal set in the equipment contest.



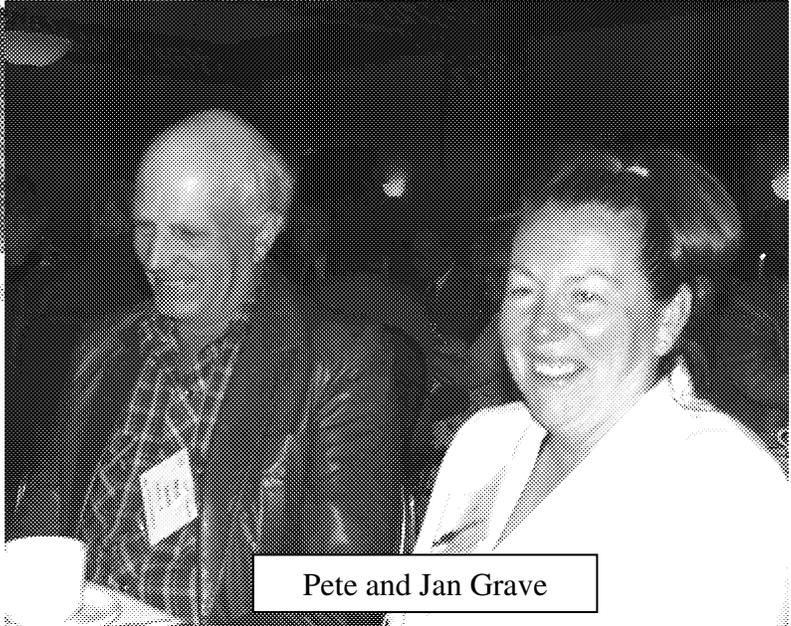
Lud and Marilyn Sibley



Mike and Alice Tannenbaum



Paul Bohlander



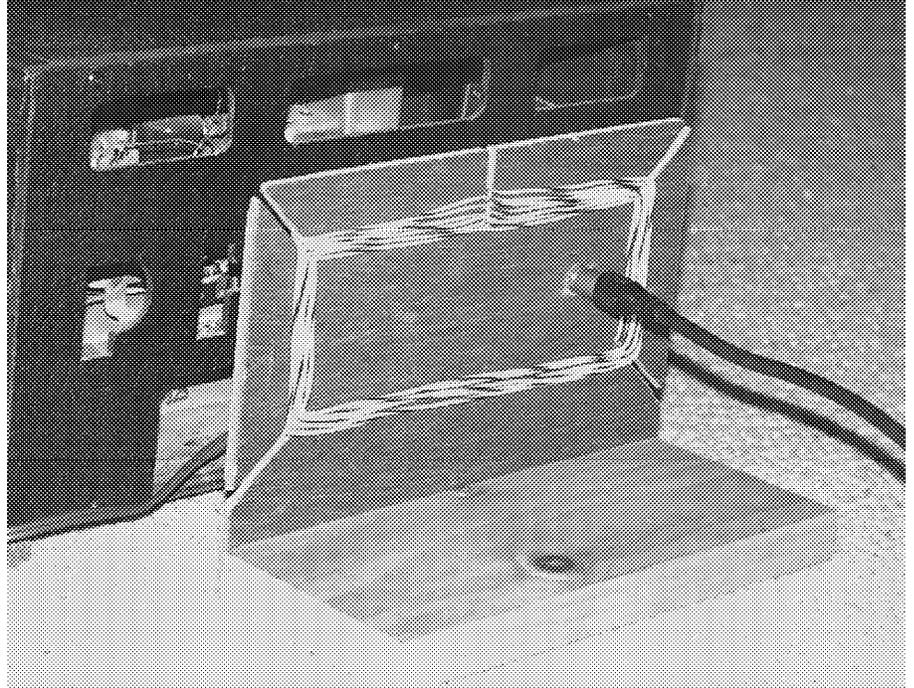
Pete and Jan Grave

An Antenna Coupler for Table Radios

By Al Klase

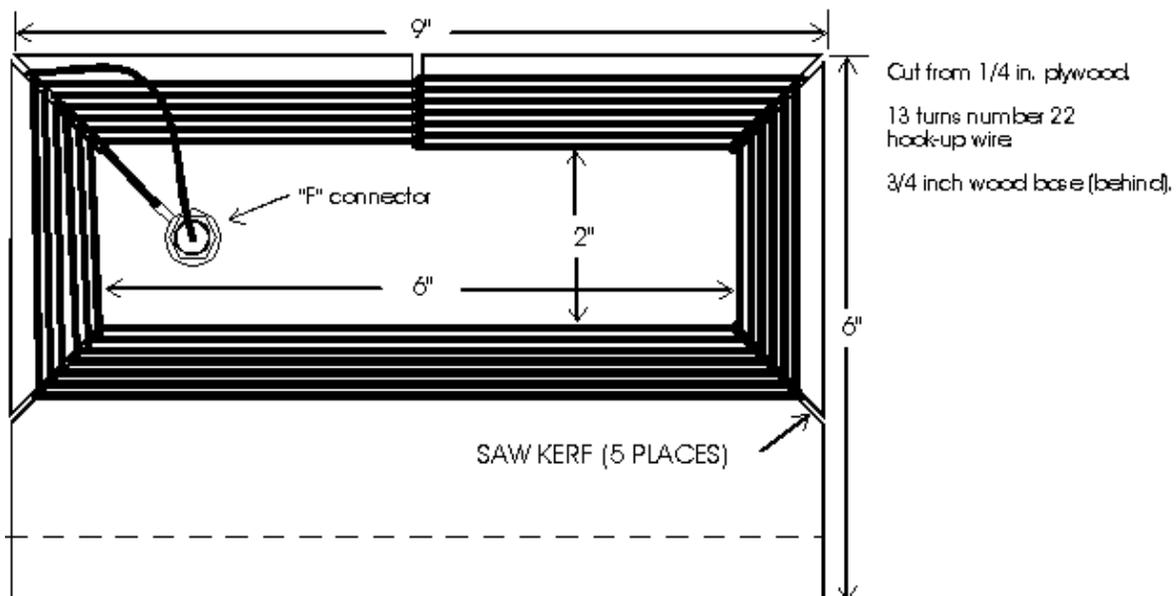
Many good radios with internal loop antennas go unused because they only give good performance on the strong locals; everything else is plagued with noise. Here's a simple device that allows an external antenna to be utilized without modifying the set. The coaxial "F-connector" may be replaced by any connector of the builder's choice including binding posts for a wire antenna and ground.

To use, simply connect the antenna and place the coupler an inch or two behind the radio. If the set uses a ferrite rod antenna, the coupler should be oriented perpendicular to the end of the rod.



LOOP ANTENNA COUPLER

Connects 75 ohm coax to receivers with loop antennas.



BUY SELL SWAP

REPAIRS WANTED: Have wind-up floor-model Victrola. Winds and turns, but stops when needle lowered onto record. Please contact: Mildred Coleman, 5038 Gainer Rd., Phila. 19131, Phone: 215-879-3047, Answering Machine 215-477-8151

WANTED: The May 1966 issue of *Electronics Illustrated*. Richard C. Yingling, 2 S. Locke Ave., Yeagertown, Pa. 17099, (717) 242-1882

WANTED: Information on "Lang" radios: literature, pictures, pricing, etc. Charles J Dreitleio, 515 Elizabeth St., New Milford, NJ 07646, 201-384-3862

FOR SALE: Assorted: 3 Home brew amplifier chassis with UTC and Acrosound transformers- tubes- and meters (SEE: <http://www.netaxs.com/~am004d/equipment> for pictures), Amprobe RS3, AKG D109mic, EV 660A mic, Sony VP2011 3/4U matic-NR, Simpson 371 AC voltmeter, Simpson 260 manual, RCA T2K radios(2), 12" Jensen speaker from floor console radio-with field coil, Triplett frequency counter Model 7000 - Mike Muderick-610-449-6970, or Mike@Muderick.com

WANTED: Gernsback's Official Radio Service Manuals: 5, 7, 8. **RCA Victor Service Data:** '47, '48, '49, '51. Mike Tannenbaum, 215 540-8055, k2bn@agtannenbaum.com A.G. Tannenbaum, POB 386 Ambler PA 19002, Phone 215 540 8055 Fax 215 540 8327, Web URL www.agtannenbaum.com, e-mail k2bn@agtannenbaum.com.

FOR SALE: Old radios and 78 RPM records from an estate. Includes **Zenith #5614**, **Silvertone** radio/disk recorder, and **RCA ACR-175** communications receiver. Contact: George Rottina, 17A Lumberjack Cir., Horsham, Pa. 19044. Phone: 215-675-9055.

FOR SALE:: 7JP4 CRT, good filament, screen looks OK, make offer. Alton Dubois, Jr., 67 Peggy Ann Road, Queensbury, NY 12804, Phone 518-792-3130

HELP: Would the person who sold Marc Ellis the Philco 70 cabinet please contact him at PO Box 1306, Evanston, Ill 600204-1306; ellis@interaccess.com; 847-869-5016.

HELP WANTED: Need someone to repair a Philco 4654 Predicta TV. Ray Casper (609) 695-8312

WANTED: Emerson AU-190 chassis; FADA 659 dial glass; Chelsea ZR-4 audio transformer; Sentinel 400 Television; Plastic CRT cover (front) for 17" Philco Predicta; Pilot TV-37 tuning knob (wood). Frank Johnson, 530 Elford Rd., Fairless Hills, PA 19030-3624 (215) 943-8295

FOR SALE: Parted out Stromberg Carlson model 19-20 AC. Power transformer appears O.K. IF's are O.K. Electrodynamic speaker is electrically O.K., needs cone repair. Make offer. Alton Dubois, Jr., 67 Peggy Ann Road, Queensbury, NY 12804, Phone 518-792-3130

WANTED: Sales literature, service manuals, and equipment for theatre sound / broadcast use by RCA Photophone, Century Sound, Motiograph, Altec, Western Electric, etc. Theatre catalogs by Jay Emmanuel Publications, Philadelphia. Scott Stillwell, 2328 Cambridge Circle, Hatfield, PA 19440 (215) 393-1833 pager: (800) 717-9306